FOR REFERENCE ONLY INDIANA COLLECTION
Hobart
1993

Move up to a Bright Future

Hobart, Indiana

Hobart Chamber of Commerce

18 East Ridge Road • Hobart, IN 46342

(219) 942-5774

Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Produced in cooperation with the Indiana Department of Commerce

Community

For many years, Hobart remained a quiet bedroom community on the edge of a leading industrial region. Growth in this city of 23,000 was artificially suppressed for over a decade due to a sewer moratorium which has been lifted.

A number of factors combine to make Hobart a community of opportunity as we move swiftly into the new century. A coalition of community organizations is encouraging retail, light industrial and residential growth while preserving the friendly small town atmosphere.

HOUSING

Hobart is a community where each home blossoms with owner pride and care, both in the areas of highest price and where homes are more modest.

Utilizing the natural beauty of northern Indiana, some homes look out onto the waters of Lake George which stretches through the center of the city; over bordering farm and woodland or into tree filled ravines. Housing ranges from small well-kept cottages to sprawling contemporary homes set on acreage or on tree lined streets. Large apartment complexes are scattered throughout the city.

EDUCATION

Excellent education facilities are provided in the public school system which includes a high school, middle school and five elementary schools. An academic program with a variety of top curriculum offerings is provided the 3,700 students. An excellent band and vocal program is available to the musically inclined and a wide range of athletic opportunities exist for the Brickies (including the outstanding football program which produces state championship teams).

In addition, 3 elementary parochial schools, Trinity Lutheran, Baptist and St. Bridget Catholic, service preschool through eighth grade students. A Catholic high school is a short distance outside the city boundaries.

Numerous preschools and day care facilities are available as well as Cerebral Palsy of Northwest Indiana.

Further educational opportunities are provided at the College of Court Reporting and at nearby campuses of Indiana University Northwest, Purdue University Calumet, Valparaiso University, Calumet College, Indiana Vocational Technical College. Adult continuing education and GED programs are offered through-out the area. The Lake County Public Library has a full service branch in the downtown overlooking Lake George.

HEALTH CARE

Hobart is the home of St. Mary Medical Center, a 184 bed hospital constructed in the 1970's. SMMC is part of the Lake Shore Health Systems which includes two other area hospitals. Several additions have been added to the Hobart complex including a new birthing center. Complete cardiac service includes a cardiac catherization lab, open heart surgery and a complete rehabilitation unit.

Near SMMC campus are Diagnostic Outpatient Center, featuring the latest in MRI diagnostic and outpatient treatment; and a new 60-bed modern psychiatric care facility, Charter Hospital of Northwest Indiana. Miller's Merry Manor and Sebo's Heritage Manor, both top rated nursing homes, are located in Hobart.

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BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY

Small clean industry dots the Hobart area. Among them are Midwest Products Corp., Linde Gases of the Midwest, AFCO, Westinghouse Electric Corp., Coil-Tran Corp., Area Sheet Metal, Applewood Farms, Boyd Construction and Analytic Laboratories Systems, Inc.

Hobart's downtown is unique with small shops and locally owned businesses nestled near the banks of Lake George. Specialty shops offer services by friendly clerks who know most customers by name.

In addition, a variety of shops are located in new strip malls with room for expansion.

A large office complex offers ultra modern space in a country setting which includes outdoor picnic facilities, a barber, hairdresser and a deli for tenants and the public. A large professional medical corporation recently moved its corporate headquarters from Chicago to this facility.

CHURCHES

Hobart has 24 churches. Most offer group activities for youth, adults and families. For detailed information, call or write the Hobart Ministerial Association, % the Hobart Chamber of Commerce, 18 E. Ridge Road, Hobart, IN 46342.

ORGANIZATIONS AND RECREATION

Hobart is a family oriented city with numerous youth, athletic, fraternal and civic organizations. All cooperate in keeping Hobart a great city in which to live and work.

Civic organizations include the Chamber of Commerce, Hobart Industrial and Economic Development Corporation and Main Street Association (downtown business people) jointly operating from the chamber facility.

Other groups include Jaycees, Kiwanis, Lions, Rotary, Optimist, VFW and American Legion Posts, Hobart Historical Society and Museum, Boy and Girl Scouts, Little League, Girls' Softball, Youth Football, City Improvement Committee, Mayor's Youth Council, YMCA, various sorority and fraternity organizations and many more. For a complete list or information on a specific group, contact the Chamber of Commerce (219) 942-5774.

RECREATION

Recreational facilities revolve around the city's 12 parks, three semi-private golf courses, Little League and Girls Softball complexes, an outdoor swimming pool, the Hobart Family YMCA (with an indoor pool), a senior citizen program at the Community Center, a new Scout Cabin (on the shores of Lake George), the Revelli Bandshell and Lou Kuchta Memorial Covered Bridge located in the new Hobart Festival Park, a locally owned movie theater and two bowling alleys.

Volunteers and donations made possible the bandshell and recently completed phase one of the lakefront development surrounding the facility. Lighted brick walkways, landscaping and a covered bridge over the Lake George dam make this an attractive and popular spot where free weekly concerts are held. The lake and dam area are also home to many geese, ducks and swans and provide a stop over for migrating birds.

Plans are under way for development of the balance of the downtown shoreline from the covered bridge to city hall.

Hobart's proximity to Chicago (40 minutes to the Loop) gives residents the opportunity to enjoy the cultural, entertainment and shopping provided by that city. Also the Star Plaza Theatre, just outside the southern boundary of Hobart, features top performances by nationally known entertainers, groups and bands.

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Transportation

Hobart is at the heart of the crossroads of the Midwest. This gives easy access to a variety of transportation modes and to the resources, cultural, entertainment and shopping attractions of larger metropolitan areas.

HIGHWAYS

Interstate 65 runs along the city's western boundary, providing easy access to Indianapolis (145 miles to the south) and I-80, I-90 and I-94 (2 miles to the north). These interstate highways provide quick access west to Illinois and Wisconsin, east to Michigan and Ohio.

U.S. 6 skims the city's northern boundary while Indiana 51 bisects Hobart, and U.S. 30 is less than 2 miles south of the city. Indiana 130 originates in Hobart and runs southeast through Valparaiso.

TRUCK AND RAIL SERVICE

Some 40 trucking companies service the Hobart area, providing a selection and competitive opportunities for overnight, one day or long haul shipping needs.

Norfolk and Western Railroad and Conrail lines serve Hobart with freight rail links to all sections of the Midwest industrial network.

Commuter service includes the Chicago-South Bend (South Shore) 15 minutes north of Hobart, linking patrons and employees to and from Hobart and downtown Chicago, South Bend and points in between. Amtrak provides daily commuter service on all east-west bound trains from the Hobart station.

AIR SERVICE

In addition to the privately owned Hobart Skyranch, just outside the city limits, nearby airports include Gary Municipal Airport, Porter County Airport (Valparaiso) and privately owned Griffith Airport.

HOBART: a 40' x 3,125' asphalt runway. Lo-intensity lites. Charter and air ambulance, fuel, tiedown, hangar. Phone (219) 962-3020.

VALPARAISO: a 150 x 6,000' and 50 x 1,800' asphalt runways. Hi-intensity lites. Aircraft rental, charter, flight instruction. Tiedown, hangar, ramp, fuel. Hertz Rental Cars, nearby food, lodging. Courtesy transportation car. Radar assist from South Bend. Expansion plans under way. Phone (219) 462-6508.

GARY: a 150 x 7,000' and 100 x 3,603' asphalt runways. Hi-intensity lites. Hertz Rental Cars, tiedown, hangar, ramp, charter, air ambulance, aircraft rental. Radar assist from Chicago's Midway Airport. Expansion plans under way. Phone (219) 944-1210.

GRIFFITH: a 50 x 4,000' asphalt runway. Rental cars. Phone (219) 938-8788.

CHICAGO: Hourly bus transportation (overnight auto parking) available to Chicago O'Hare and Midway Airports. Limo service also available to both.

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WATER

Only 11 miles from Hobart lies the Port of Indiana/Burns International Harbor on Lake Michigan, the newest and most modern port on the Great Lakes. This provides access through the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico, St. Lawrence Seaway, the Atlantic Ocean and the world.

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Location & Sites

Long awaited residential and industrial growth is under way in Hobart with the recent lifting of a building moratorium in effect while new sanitary sewage facilities were completed.

In addition to existing partially filled industrial parks, with utilities in, there are properly zoned sites available for industrial and manufacturing development.

Plans are under way by the Redevelopment Commission to provide utilities including streets and lighting utilizing tax increments through bonding. The designated redevelopment area is split by a state highway and railroad line, providing excellent transportation facilities.

Existing office, retail, professional, business and industrial structures are also available.

INDUSTRIAL SITES

- 100 acres zoned M-1 (light industry) 800 E. 6th Street. Included in the redevelopment area. Abuts Norfolk and Western Railroad.
- 40 acres zoned M-1, Liverpool Road and 43rd Avenue. All utilities available.
- McAfee Industrial Park zoned M-1, Indiana 130. Included in the redevelopment area. Utilities available.
- Monarch Industrial Park zoned M-1, 12 acres, Indiana 130. A few lots available.
- Ittel Industrial Park zoned M-1, Indiana 130.

PROFESSIONAL SITES

A five-building professional center provides space for professional offices on U.S. 6 near Indiana 51. The first structure is complete and occupied. Professional suites are also provided in the St. Mary Medical Center complex.

OFFICE SPACE

Park Place, on Indiana 51, provides deli, barber and hair dresser facilities for building occupants and the public, has attracted choice corporate headquarters from Chicago to the building. A few suites are still open in the 80,000 sq. ft. modern facility with ample parking, located near the hospital, St. Mary Medical Center.

Other lease sites for retail, office or professional space are scattered throughout the City of Hobart.

For further information contact: Chamber of Commerce or Hobart Industrial Economic Development Corporation (219) 942-5774 - 18 E. Ridge Rd., Hobart, IN 46342

Local Government, Work Force

CITY ADMINISTRATION

Hobart is managed by a Mayor, Clerk-Treasurer, City Judge and seven-member Common Council, all elected every four years. The city takes pride in having no outstanding debts or bonds to burden taxpayers. Along with the board of public works, the Mayor and Council oversee the city's $5 million plus annual budget.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Governmental entities include a Plan Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, Park Board and Redevelopment Commission. The city has a full-time City Engineer, Building Official, Code Enforcement Officer, Electrical Inspector & Plumbing Inspector.

CITY COURT

In addition to the City Court, in session one morning and one evening a week, a newly created Municipal Ordinance Violation Bureau enables those having city violations to plead guilty and pay fines without going to court or paying court costs.

POLICE, FIRE & STREET DEPARTMENTS

Hobart has a 31 man police department (plus two canine members) and an award winning career fire department with 24 members who also oversee a 24-hour ambulance service. Recent expansion of the police department provides "911" police, fire and ambulance emergency service to businesses and residents. Hobart's outstanding street department is considered the best and most efficient in the Calumet Region.

WORK FORCE

Hobart provides an abundance of skilled and unskilled workers, professionals and craftsmen. This qualified and diversified labor force is cost effective for new and expanding businesses.

WORKMAN'S COMPENSATION, UNEMPLOYMENT & TAX RATES

Indiana businesses enjoy a tax climate which is among the best in the nation, and tax rates which are lower than those in all other Great Lakes states. Included in these benefits are lower unemployment taxes, workman's compensation insurance rates, per capita welfare expenditures and state & local property tax rates.

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Financing & Assistance

Investment in Indiana and in Hobart is enhanced by a number of state supported incentives. The banking climate also is strong with four locally and regionally owned financial institutions located in Hobart. Resources for the four (Gainer Bank, Bank One, Hobart Federal Savings and Loan, and First Federal Savings Bank) total about 3 billion dollars.

STATE

An Investment Incentive Program is for funding local loans; Ind. Employment Dev. Com. & Ind. Statewide Certified Dev. Corp. provide fixed asset loan guarantees; the Ind. Institute for New Business Ventures, Seed Capital Network. Corp. for Innovation Dev. & Community Business Credit Corp. offer assistance for new businesses. The Industrial Dev. Infrastructure Program also offers assistance for community efforts to support new businesses.

Investment Capital Funds (Corporations for Innovation Development) provide investment capital for new entrepreneurs and offers direct and imaginative financing to small existing or to new businesses. This program is designed to supplement, not duplicate, conventional financing.

LOCAL

The City of Hobart is poised to offer incentives for new development. Property tax abatement is available on a case by case basis for up to 10 years. An abbreviated abatement schedule also is available for new manufacturing equipment installed.

Several industrial sites are located within a large redevelopment area where infrastructure improvements are under way. Three industrial parks, partially filled, are included in this area as well as large tracts of vacant land zoned for industrial use.

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Utilities

WATER

Hobart has an unlimited supply of fresh water from Lake Michigan. Gary-Hobart Water Corporation, a privately owned company, services this area with a pumping capacity for Hobart of 5.9 million gallons per day and the peak demand has reached only 3.2 mgd. Rates are available upon request by contacting Gary-Hobart Water Corporation, Customer Service Department, 650 Madison Street, Gary, IN, Phone: (219) 886-1410.

SANITARY SEWERS

Wastewater treatment was upgraded in 1989 by the completion of a pumping station connecting Hobart to the Gary Sanitary District assuring ample capacity (5 mgd).

ELECTRICITY AND NATURAL GAS

Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) provides both natural gas and electricity to Hobart customers. NIPSCO is a privately owned utility serving the northern third of Indiana and providing an unlimited supply of electricity, and gas rates which are among the lowest in the nation. Rates and capacity information are available upon request. Information regarding an Economic Development Rider for commercial and industrial customers also is available by contacting: NIPSCO, 5265 Hohman Avenue, Hammond, IN 46320. Phone: (219) 853-5200.

TELEPHONE

Telephone service is provided for Hobart by GTE North. For rates and service information contact GTE District Manager at (219) 763-8211.

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Hobart Has It!

Hobart residents support five public elementary, a middle and high school (with excellent athletic, band and academic extra curricular programs); three parochial schools; several pre-school and nursery schools; 24 churches (each with auxiliary groups) and countless family oriented organizations which offer activities for children of all ages; young adults, men, women and family groups. Hobart has something for everyone. Below are some Hobart organizations and churches. For further information, contact the Chamber of Commerce (219) 942-5774.

ORGANIZATIONS

Adult Basketball Booster Club
Alpha Beta Phi
American Assoc. of Univ. Women
American Legion Auxiliary
American Legion Post #54
Band Mothers & Boosters
Boy Scouts of America
Club Sar, Inc.
Daug. of the Amer. Revolution
Eagles FOE #2498
Elks Lodge #1152
Federated Women's Club
Fire Fighters Association
Food Pantry
Football Boosters
Fraternal Order of Police
German Band
Girl Scouts of America
Girls Softball
Hobart Arts League
Hobart Bar Association
Hobart Chamber of Commerce
Hobart Community Theatre
Hobart Democratic Prect. Organ.
Hobart Family YMCA
Hobart Garden Club
Hobart Historical Society
Hobart Humane Society
Hobart Industrial Economic Development Corporation
Hobart Jaycees
Hobart Kiwanis

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Hobart Main Street Association
Hobart Pool Association
Hobart Republican Prect. Organ.
Hobart Soccer League
Hobart-Southlake Optimist Club
Hobart Township/Lake Ridge Community Service
Knights of Columbus
Lake County Assoc. for Retarded Workshop
Lake Federated Club
Lake George Extension Homemakers Club
League of Women Voters
Lions Club
Little League
MacJoy Lake Conservation
Masonic Temple
Moose Lodge #783
Phi Beta Psi
Phi Delta Kappa
Pop Warner Football
Rebekah Lodge #679
Rotary Club
Rusty Pipes
Senior Citizens Organ.
Shrine Club
Sigma Alpha Chi
Sigma Upsilon Alpha Pi
St. Mary Hospital Auxiliary
The Answer
Tri Kappa
Vasa Lodge #484
Veterans of Foreign Wars #5365
Youth Basketball

CHURCHES

Augustana Lutheran
Central Baptist Church
Christian Assembly Church
Community Christian
Evergreen Baptist
First Baptist
First Church of Christ Scientist
First Church of the Nazarene
First Unitarian
First United Methodist
Hillcrest Baptist
Hobart Assembly of God
Hobart Church of Christ
Hobart First Christian
Hobart Presbyterian
Ridge Road Church of the Nazarene
Southlake Church of God
St. Bridget Catholic
St. Sava Serbian Orthodox
St. Stephen's Episcopal
Sunnyside Baptist
Trinity Lutheran
Trinity United Methodist
United Pentecostal

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